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United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/115. It covers the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law in 2018, as well as the activities planned for 2019 and the related administrative and financial implications.

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Contents

		Page
I.	Introduction	3
II.	Implementation of the Programme of Assistance during 2018	3
	A. International Law Fellowship Programme	3
	B. United Nations Regional Courses in International Law	4
	C. United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law	7
	D. International law training materials	8
	E. Desktop publishing	9
	F. Dissemination	10
	G. Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea	10
III.	Guidelines and recommendations regarding the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2019	10
IV.	Administrative and financial implications of the Programme of Assistance	11
	A. During 2018	11
	B. During 2019	12
V.	Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law	13
	A. Membership	13
	B. Consideration of the report of the Secretary-General by the Advisory Committee at its fifty-third session	13
Annex		
	Websites maintained by the Codification Division	15

I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 72/115, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to carry out, in 2018 and 2019, the activities specified in his report on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (A/72/517 and A/72/517/Corr.1), submitted to the Assembly at its seventy-second session. In paragraph 27 of the resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the Programme in 2018 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, to submit recommendations regarding the Programme in subsequent years.

2. The present report provides information concerning the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2018, as well as the activities planned for 2019 and the related administrative and financial implications.

II. Implementation of the Programme of Assistance during 2018

3. The Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat is responsible for the implementation of the Programme of Assistance.[1] The Division performs various functions in connection with the implementation of the Programme, such as organizing and conducting the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law, preparing and issuing publications, developing and maintaining the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law and the website of the Programme of Assistance, preparing reports of the Secretary-General and providing services to the Advisory Committee and the Sixth Committee on the related agenda item.

A. International Law Fellowship Programme

4. The International Law Fellowship Programme provides comprehensive training by highly qualified international law scholars and practitioners from different regions and legal systems for professionals from developing countries and countries with emerging economies, under the Programme of Assistance.[2] The fellows attend seminars organized by the Codification Division on a broad range of core topics of international law, as well as the Public International Law Summer Course of The Hague Academy of International Law. Study visits are also arranged for the fellows.

5. The International Law Fellowship Programme was held in The Hague from 25 June to 3 August 2018. More than 260 applications were received from candidates from 46 countries (including 191 from Africa, 15 from Asia-Pacific, 8 from Eastern Europe, 43 from Latin America and the Caribbean and 4 from Western Europe and other countries). A total of 21 fellows (10 men and 11 women) were selected for the Programme, which was conducted in French.

[1] For information on other activities of the Office of Legal Affairs, see the report of the International Law Commission on its seventieth session (A/73/10), the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on its fifty-first session (A/73/17), the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea (A/73/68) and the Treaty Section website (https://treaties.un.org).

[2] Since 2010, as a necessary cost-saving measure to increase the number of fellowships provided through the regular budget, the Fellowship Programme in The Hague has been conducted by the Codification Division (see A/65/514, para. 12).

6. The fellows were from: Albania, Algeria, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mauritania, Mexico, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Togo and Turkey.[3]

7. The seminars organized by the Codification Division consisted of (in chronological order): "Introduction to international law" (M. Kohen, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva); "Peaceful settlement of international disputes" (P. Galvão Teles, Autonomous University of Lisbon, International Law Commission); "Research in international law" (Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs); "Law of the sea" (Y. Cissé, Alassane Ouattara University, International Law Commission); "Sources of international law" and "Treaty law" (S. Villalpando, Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs); "State responsibility" (M. Forteau, Paris Nanterre University, International Law Commission (former member)); "International human rights law" (H. Tigroudja, University of Aix-Marseille, Human Rights Committee (member-elect); "International peace and security" (D. Momtaz, University of Tehran, International Law Commission (former member); "The International Court of Justice" (M. Bennouna, International Court of Justice); "International humanitarian law" and "International criminal law" (A. Lagerwall, Free University of Brussels); "International environmental law" and "International organizations" (L. Boisson de Chazournes, University of Geneva); "International trade law" and "International investment law" (M. M. Mbengue, University of Geneva).

8. The Hague Academy lectures consisted of (in chronological order): "The practice of international law" (inaugural lecture) (R. Bundy, Eversheds Harry Elias, Singapore); "Public international law from a practical perspective — Advocating a theory of reality" (general course) (A. Pellet, Paris Nanterre University, International Law Commission (former member); "International law and technology" (C. Espósito, Autonomous University of Madrid); "The return of displaced cultural objects to their countries of origin" (K. Lee, Seoul National University); "The protection of the rights of individuals in African international law" (F. Ouguergouz, United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Burundi); "Reparation in international adjudication" (P. Pazartzis, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens); "The international climate change regime" (L. Rajamani, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi); and "The immunities of States and international organizations in domestic legal systems" (D. Sarooshi, University of Oxford).

9. Study visits with briefings by officials were arranged for the fellows at the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court and the Permanent Court of Arbitration. The fellows also had the opportunity to attend hearings at the International Court of Justice.

B. United Nations Regional Courses in International Law

10. The three United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean provide an important mechanism for expanding the international law training opportunities available to participants from developing countries, given the limited number of participants who can be

[3] Additional information about the fellows can be found at http://legal.un.org/poa/ilfp/pdf/ilfp_2018_participants.pdf.

accommodated in the International Law Fellowship Programme.[4] The courses provide training by highly qualified international law scholars and practitioners on a broad range of core topics of international law. The courses also provide participants with an opportunity to focus on contemporary issues of international law of common interest to the region, with a view to promoting greater understanding and cooperation on such issues.

1. Africa

11. The Regional Course in International Law for Africa was held at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in Addis Ababa, from 5 February to 2 March 2018. The course was conducted in English. Applications were received from 329 candidates from 40 countries. A total of 29 participants (14 men and 15 women) attended the course, with 20 participants receiving fellowships and 9 attending on a self-funded basis.

12. The participants were from: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.[5]

13. The seminars for the Regional Course consisted of (in chronological order): "Introduction to international law" (J. Viñuales, University of Cambridge); "Law of treaties" and "State responsibility" (S. Villalpando, Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs); "International environmental law" (E. Hey, Erasmus University Rotterdam); "International trade law" and "International investment law" (M. M. Mbengue, University of Geneva); "African Union law and institutions and African Union Commission on International Law" (M. Ben Dhiab, African Union Commission); "International human rights law" (O. Okafor, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University); "Law of the sea" (N. Oral, Faculty of Law, Istanbul Bilgi University, International Law Commission); "Research in international law" (Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs); "International peace and security" (D. Tladi, University of Pretoria, International Law Commission); "International criminal law" and "International humanitarian law" (C. Jalloh, Florida International University, International Law Commission); "Peaceful settlement of disputes" (P. Galvão Teles, Autonomous University of Lisbon, International Law Commission); and "International organizations" (N. Blokker, Leiden University). The participants also attended a briefing at the African Union on the work of the Office of the Legal Counsel of the African Union.

2. Asia-Pacific

14. The Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific was held at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in Bangkok, from 20 November to 15 December 2017. The course was conducted in English. Applications were received from 109 candidates from 43 countries. In total, 29

[4] Since 2011, the Codification Division has conducted the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law as a necessary cost-saving measure to increase the number of fellowships and better meet the increasing demand for international law training. All administrative, financial and practical arrangements, such as travel and accommodation, were previously entrusted to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, which required funding for its Professional and General Service staff members who performed those services over a period of approximately six months for each Regional Course.

[5] Information on the participants can be found at http://legal.un.org/poa/reil/africa/participants_2018.pdf.

participants (13 men and 16 women) attended the course, with 20 receiving fellowships and 9 attending on a self-funded basis.

15. The participants were from: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Yemen.[6]

16. The seminars given at the Regional Course were the following (in chronological order): "Introduction to international law" (A. Pellet, Paris Nanterre University, International Law Commission (former member)); "International peace and security" and "The work of the International Law Commission" (D. Tladi, University of Pretoria, International Law Commission); "International law and Asia-Pacific" (S. Chesterman, National University of Singapore); "International human rights law" (A. Gallagher, Doughty Street Chambers); "Peaceful settlement of international disputes" (M. Wood, University of Cambridge, International Law Commission); "International humanitarian law" and "International criminal law" (K. Riordan, Court Martial of New Zealand, Armed Forces of New Zealand, Victoria University of Wellington); "Law of treaties" and "State responsibility" (S. Villalpando, Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs); "International environmental law" (H. Desai, Jawaharlal Nehru University); "Research in international law" (Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs); "International trade law" and "International investment law" (M. M. Mbengue, University of Geneva); and "Law of the sea" (N. Oral, Faculty of Law, Istanbul Bilgi University, International Law Commission).

3. Latin America and the Caribbean

17. The Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean was held at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in Santiago, from 23 April to 18 May 2018. The course was conducted in English. Applications were received from 102 candidates from 27 countries. A total of 25 participants (11 men and 14 women) attended the course, with 20 receiving fellowships and 5 attending on a self-funded basis.

18. The participants were from: Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).[7]

19. The seminars for the Regional Course consisted of (in chronological order): "Introduction to international law" (P. Galvão Teles, Autonomous University of Lisbon, International Law Commission); "Law of the sea" (S. Murphy, George Washington University Law School, International Law Commission); "The work of the International Law Commission" and "International organizations" (C. Grossman, American University Washington College of Law, International Law Commission); "The law and institutions of the ECLAC region" (G. Acuña, ECLAC); "Regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean: Escazú Agreement"[8] (C. de Miguel, ECLAC); "Research in international law" (Codification Division, United Nations Office of Legal Affairs); "Law of treaties" and "State responsibility" (S. Villalpando, Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs); "International peace and security" (D. Akande, University of Oxford); "International human rights law" (M. Pinto,

[6] Information about the participants can be found at http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/asia/participants_2017.pdf.

[7] Information about the participants can be found at http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil/laac/participants_2018.pdf.

[8] The ECLAC sessions were delivered in Spanish with English interpretation.

School of Law, University of Buenos Aires); "International humanitarian law" and "International criminal law" (E. Salmón, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru); "International environmental law" and "International trade law" (M. M. Mbengue, University of Geneva); "International investment law" and "Peaceful settlement of international disputes" (C. Giorgetti, University of Richmond School of Law).

4. Venues for the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law

20. During the period under review, the Regional Courses were held at the United Nations regional commissions,[9] which facilitate the organization of the courses on a regular basis. The regional commissions provide not only classroom and office space free of charge, but also significant administrative support during the planning and conducting of the Courses. Such support results in enhanced financial and administrative efficiency and greater certainty and consistency for the Courses, without precluding the possibility of holding the Courses at other locations in the future.

C. United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law

21. Traditional training courses offer unique advantages in terms of promoting in-depth discussions, interaction and cooperation among participants. In response to the increasing demand for international law training that could not be met solely by its traditional training courses, the Codification Division created the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law in 2008. With the Library, the United Nations has the capacity to provide, at a relatively low cost, high-quality training to an unlimited number of individuals and institutions around the world, free of charge through the Internet.

22. The Audiovisual Library is a virtual training and research centre with more than 400 leading international law scholars, judges and practitioners from different countries and legal systems who contribute to its three pillars: the Lecture Series, the Historic Archives and the Research Library. The Lecture Series contains well over 500 lectures, accompanied by lists of related materials linking to reference documents available online. The Lecture Series contains individual lectures on a broad range of specific topics of international law and several series of lectures on core topics of international law. The series of lectures and related legal materials are intended to provide a more comprehensive educational resource for academic institutions and government training centres in developing countries. During the period under review, 50 new lectures were recorded for the Lecture Series. In order to promote a broader geographical and linguistic representation in the recorded lectures and to record lecturers who are not regularly in New York, during the reporting period the Codification Division undertook off-site recording sessions, including a series of lectures on the Council of Europe and several lectures on the International Labour Organization.[10] The Historic Archives contains introductory notes by leading authorities, as well as procedural histories, related documents and archival

[9] The Regional Course in International Law for Africa was held in the Economic Commission for Africa in Ethiopia. The Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific was held in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Thailand. The Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean was held in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Chile.

[10] The lectures were recorded during the same mission at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg and the United Nations Office at Geneva, at both of which recording facilities were provided free of charge.

audiovisual materials prepared by the Division on over 100 legal instruments.[11] During the period in question, the Division added several new instruments and a procedural history note. The Research Library provides an extensive online library consisting of treaties, jurisprudence, publications, documents, scholarly writings and training materials, including the *International Law Handbook: Collection of Instruments*, a four-volume publication of the Division. The newly completed *Recueil de droit international: Collection d'instruments*, the French equivalent of the *International Law Handbook: Collection of Instruments*, has also been added to the Research Library. In addition, during the period under review, the Codification Division prepared and added a new section to the Research Library relating to moot courts held in academic institutions. The section is intended to gather relevant Audiovisual Library lectures and legal materials for participants of moot courts to prepare for the competition. This year, the relevant Audiovisual Library lectures and materials were added for the Concours Charles-Rousseau moot court competition in 2018.

23. Since its creation in 2008, the Audiovisual Library has been accessed by over 1.6 million users in 193 Member States and non-Member States. While it was created primarily for the benefit of users in developing countries,[12] it continues to be accessed primarily by users in developed countries. The Codification Division has made significant efforts to facilitate access to the lectures for users without reliable high-speed Internet on computers and mobile devices through a podcast project started in the previous biennium. For such purpose, all available lectures were converted into audio files, which are significantly easier to access than video files. During the period under review, the Codification Division completed the podcast project for the Audiovisual Library. All lectures (over 500) are now also available as audio files, which can be either streamed or downloaded. The audio files can be accessed free of charge either on the website of the Audiovisual Library or using a podcast application. In addition, information concerning new additions to the Audiovisual Library continues to be disseminated through the *Journal of the United Nations*, social media and specialized international law blogs.

D. International law training materials

24. The Codification Division researches, collects and prepares legal materials in hard copy, in consultation with the lecturers, for its international law training courses.[13] In addition, CD-ROMs and USB flash drives containing the training materials and legal publications of the Division and other international law materials are provided to facilitate electronic research for participants in developing countries with limited access to the Internet.[14] The training materials are also made available on the websites of the respective training courses and on the website of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, free of charge for academic use.

25. As mentioned in paragraph 22, in 2018, the Codification Division finalized the preparation of the *Recueil de droit international: Collection d'instruments*, the four-

[11] Legal materials for the Historic Archives and the Lecture Series are provided in all official languages of the Organization.

[12] As at May 2018, the Audiovisual Library has been accessed by approximately 115,000 users in Africa, 383,000 users in Asia-Pacific and 88,000 users in Latin America and the Caribbean.

[13] In 2018, the Codification Division prepared training materials for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean.

[14] The Codification Division is now required to purchase its legal publications and other essential United Nations publications, including the Charter of the United Nations, for use in its training courses.

volume French equivalent of the International Law Handbook, using desktop publishing. The *Recueil* was funded, on an exceptional basis, through voluntary contributions. The preparation of the *International Law Handbook* in the other official languages will depend on the availability of voluntary contributions for that purpose.

26. In addition to being used by the Division as study material for its training courses under the Programme of Assistance, the *International Law Handbook* (in both English and French) is intended for distribution to academic institutions and government training centres in developing countries to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law around the world. It is available, free of charge, from the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law,[15] and it may be reproduced for academic purposes to further the teaching and dissemination of international law. The *International Law Handbook* is intended to be used as a general work of reference. It comprises four books, as follows: Book One contains the Charter of the United Nations and the Statute of the International Court of Justice, as well as instruments relating to the law of treaties, subjects of international law, diplomatic and consular relations, international responsibility, the peaceful settlement of international disputes, international peace and security, and international human rights law, as well as movement of persons and international migration law; Book Two contains instruments relating to the law of armed conflict, international criminal law, disarmament and non-proliferation; Book Three contains instruments relating to the law of the sea, international environmental law and international watercourses; and Book Four contains instruments relating to international labour law, the law of cultural relations, and international trade and investment law.

E. Desktop publishing

27. In 2003, the Codification Division began using desktop publishing, on a voluntary basis and subject to available resources, to expedite the issuance of some of its legal publications and to make them available to the international legal community in a timely manner. By 2013, the Division had successfully eliminated the backlog of up to five years for several of its publications.[16] In 2014, it discontinued its desktop publishing because of a lack of resources (necessary materials and staff) following the abolition of a General Service post that year. Consequently, none of the publications listed in paragraph 41 of document A/68/521 were issued during the period from 2014 to 2016. In 2018, the Division continued the desktop publishing activities that it had resumed in 2017,[17] and plans to publish the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook* (2014), *Reports of International Arbitral Awards* (vol. XXXI), as well as the next volume of the *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice* (2013–2017) by the end of the year. The

[15] Available at http://legal.un.org/avl/handbook.html.

[16] The backlog was eliminated for the following publications: *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*; *United Nations Legislative Series*; *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice*; *Reports of International Arbitral Awards*; and *The Work of the International Law Commission* (vols. I and II).

[17] See General Assembly resolutions 64/113 of 16 December 2009, 65/25 of 6 December 2010, 66/97 of 9 December 2011, 67/91 of 14 December 2012, 68/110 of 16 December 2013, 69/117 of 10 December 2014, 70/116 of 14 December 2015 and 71/139 of 13 December 2016, in which the Assembly expressed its appreciation for the desktop publishing initiative undertaken by the Division from 2003 to 2013 and recommended that the necessary resources be made available to resume this successful initiative. Using existing resources, the Division began a pilot project in 2017, as a result of which it published *The Work of the International Law Commission* (9th edition) and the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook* (2013) in that year.

Division will continue to explore ways of sustaining such efforts in 2019 and beyond, subject to the availability of resources.

F. Dissemination

28. The dissemination of legal publications and information through the Internet and other electronic media is intended to supplement the limited number of hard copies, without prejudice to the unique value of printed materials for legal research and education, in particular for users in developing countries with limited access to the Internet. The materials are provided free of charge on the Internet to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law (see annex).

G. Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea

29. Vanessa E. Arellano of Ecuador is scheduled to complete the 2018 Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea in December 2018. As to the cost of each individual fellowship, such cost depends on several highly variable factors, including the stipend rates applicable in the cities of the host institutions, currency exchange rates, airfare and the duration of the fellowship. Those factors lead to differences in fellowship costs from year to year, which can range from approximately $35,000 to $60,000, excluding the 13 per cent programme support costs and 15 per cent operational reserve (for fund balance, see para. 31).[18]

III. Guidelines and recommendations regarding the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2019

30. In 2019, the Codification Division plans to carry out the activities under the Programme of Assistance in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General (see A/72/517 and A/72/517/Corr.1, sect. III) and approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 72/115.

31. Regarding the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship, the current fund balance available for disbursement, taking into account programme support costs, is estimated to be approximately $40,700, which may not be sufficient to award a standard fellowship for 2019, unless additional voluntary contributions are received by November 2018.

[18] The administrative assistance initially provided by the Codification Division in the 1980s and early 1990s gradually decreased after the former Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea became part of the Office of Legal Affairs in 1992. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea is entrusted with matters related to the law of the sea, including technical capacity-building, to avoid duplication of work and to ensure the proper administration of the fellowship. Since 2010 the fellowship has been administered solely by that Division as part of its provision of technical capacity-building with respect to the law of the sea. Additional information on the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship will be provided in the annual report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, which will be considered under the agenda item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

IV. Administrative and financial implications of the Programme of Assistance

A. During 2018

32. In its resolution 72/115, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to carry out, in 2018 and 2019, the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean and to continue to develop the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, to be financed from provisions in the regular budget, as well as, when necessary, voluntary contributions.

33. Regarding the funding provided for the Programme of Assistance, a total of $2,200,600 was requested for the regular budget for the biennium 2018–2019 under section 8, Legal affairs, subprogramme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, for the International Law Fellowship Programme, the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, respectively, and the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law.

34. In its resolution 72/115, the General Assembly reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme of Assistance and periodically to invite Member States and interested organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme or to otherwise assist in its implementation and possible expansion. Accordingly, on 12 March 2018, a note verbale was sent to Member States to draw their attention to resolution 72/115.

35. Since the previous report, voluntary contributions have been received for the activities under the Programme of Assistance as follows: (a) from Finland ($9,472), Portugal ($11,940) and Qatar ($3,000); (b) for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law: from Czechia ($2,256), Ireland ($5,000), Portugal ($11,940), Switzerland ($19,000) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ($7,062); (c) for the United Nations Regional Course in International Law for Africa: from China ($10,000); (d) for the United Nations Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific: from China ($10,000) and the Philippines ($5,000); (e) for the International Law Fellowship Programme: from Ireland ($5,000); and (f) for the *International Law Handbook*: from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ($7,062).

36. With regard to the International Law Fellowship Programme, The Hague Academy of International Law provided a reduced tuition rate for the fellows. The Carnegie Foundation provided a seminar room and related equipment, and the Peace Palace Library, managed by the Carnegie Foundation, provided the participants with library access and research support. The Registry of the International Court of Justice provided office space and equipment for staff of the Codification Division and essential administrative and logistical support for the Programme. The International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals also provided administrative support for the Programme.

37. Regarding the Regional Course in International Law for Africa, the African Union assisted in disseminating information about the course and provided administrative support during the course. ECA provided the training venue, office space for staff of the Codification Division, dining facilities, equipment and administrative and operational support.

38. Regarding the Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Government of Chile hosted a welcome reception at the premises of ECLAC, held a closing ceremony at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and organized a cultural visit. ECLAC provided the training venue and the room for the opening ceremony, office space for staff of the Codification Division, dining facilities, equipment and administrative and operational support.

39. Regarding the Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific, the Government of Thailand provided hotel accommodation and evening meals for participants and ground transportation in Bangkok for participants and lecturers, hosted a welcome dinner and organized cultural visits. ESCAP provided the training venue and a room for the opening ceremony, office space for staff of the Codification Division, dining facilities, equipment and administrative and operational support.

40. Publications were provided in hard copy free of charge for distribution to the participants in one or more of the training courses by the following entities: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand, the Department of Public Information and the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs.

Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea

41. Since the previous report, contributions to the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea have been received from the following States: Ireland ($5,000), Monaco ($24,636) and Sri Lanka ($10,000).

B. During 2019

42. As noted above, with regard to the International Law Fellowship Programme, the Regional Courses in International Law and the Audiovisual Library of International Law, a total of $2,200,600 was included in the regular budget under section 8, Legal affairs, subprogramme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019.

1. International Law Fellowship Programme and United Nations Regional Courses in International Law

43. The resources included in the proposed programme budget will provide for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the three United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, respectively, to be conducted in 2019 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 72/115. The resources will provide fellowships (covering travel, accommodation, health insurance, study materials and a stipend for living expenses) for a minimum of 20 professionals from developing countries and countries with emerging economies to attend each of the training courses.

44. The Codification Division will continue to make every effort to increase the number of fellowships provided by the regular budget for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the Regional Courses in order to meet, to the extent possible, the strong demand for international law training. The Codification Division will also seek voluntary contributions to award additional full or partial fellowships and will, whenever possible, admit a limited number of participants on a self-funded basis.

2. United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law

45. The resources included in the programme budget will provide for two full-time positions (one Legal Officer (P-3) and one Video Producer (General Service (Other

level)) funded from general temporary assistance, which are required to ensure the continuation and further development of the Lecture Series and the Historic Archives of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law in 2019.

46. The programme budget will also be used for the travel of staff to conduct off-site recordings of lectures at various locations. Such recordings are undertaken to promote broader geographical and linguistic representation in the recorded lectures and to record lecturers who are not regularly in New York.

47. In addition, the resources will be used to obtain necessary technical supplies and materials, and for the digitization of some historical audio and film recordings.

48. Extrabudgetary resources will be utilized to promote greater access to the Audiovisual Library in developing countries and to develop the Historic Archives of the Audiovisual Library (including staff and digitization of additional audiovisual materials).

49. The Secretary-General will continue to request voluntary and in-kind contributions to the Programme of Assistance, in particular to provide for additional fellowships for the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law, the preparation of the *International Law Handbook* in additional languages and the continuation and further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law.

V. Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

A. Membership

50. The General Assembly, by its resolution 70/116, appointed the following 25 Member States as members of the Advisory Committee for the period from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2019: Argentina, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czechia, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

B. Consideration of the report of the Secretary-General by the Advisory Committee at its fifty-third session

51. The fifty-third session of the Advisory Committee, held on 4 October 2018, was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations, Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee.

52. Jessica Elbaz, a Principal Legal Officer in the Codification Division, served as Secretary of the Advisory Committee.

53. The following members of the Advisory Committee were present on 4 October: Argentina, Canada, Czechia, France, Germany, Ghana, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay. Thailand attended the meeting as an observer in its capacity as host country for the Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific.

54. The Secretary of the Advisory Committee made a statement in which she provided an update to the information contained in the draft report and drew attention

to the continuing efforts to strengthen the activities under the Programme of Assistance. She emphasized that, as a result of the funding provided to the Programme under the regular budget for the biennium 2018–2019, the Codification Division had been able to organize the Regional Courses in International Law in all three regions (Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean) in 2018. Moreover, the Division had been able to substantially increase the quantity, and diversity, of the lectures available on the website of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, which had been accessed by a significant number of new users. In addition, the Secretary drew attention to the issuance in 2018 of the *Recueil de droit international*, the French equivalent of the *International Law Handbook* that was issued last year, both of which would be used for the training courses under the Programme and for distribution to academic institutions and government training centres in developing countries. She also informed the members of the Advisory Committee about the completion of the work to podcast all lectures available on the website of the Audiovisual Library of International Law, thereby making them more accessible in regions of the world where high-speed Internet was unavailable or unreliable.

55. The Advisory Committee commended the Codification Division for its efforts in implementing and further strengthening the activities under the Programme of Assistance and expressed its satisfaction that the funding provided by the regular budget had enabled all the mandated activities of the Programme envisaged for 2018 to be carried out. The Advisory Committee also expressed its appreciation for the preparation of the *Recueil de droit international*. The Committee further recommended that efforts be made to continue increasing the dissemination of information on the Audiovisual Library of International Law, as well as enhancing its accessibility, including by improving its website.

Annex

Websites maintained by the Codification Division

Website	*Uniform resource locator*
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law	www.un.org/law/programmeofassistance/
International Law Fellowship Programme	www.un.org/law/ilfp/
United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean	www.un.org/law/rcil/
United Nations International Law Seminar for Arab States	http://legal.un.org/poa/seminar.html
United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law	www.un.org/law/avl/
United Nations legal publications portal	http://legal.un.org/cod/publications.shtml
Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs	http://legal.un.org/repertory
United Nations Juridical Yearbook	http://legal.un.org/unjuridicalyearbook
Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice	http://legal.un.org/icjsummaries
Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the Permanent Court of International Justice	http://legal.un.org/PCIJsummaries
Reports of International Arbitral Awards	http://legal.un.org/riaa
United Nations Legislative Series	http://legal.un.org/legislativeseries
Codification and Progressive Development of International Law	http://legal.un.org/cod
Sixth Committee of the General Assembly	www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/
International Law Commission	http://legal.un.org/ilc
Diplomatic conferences (official records of proceedings)	http://legal.un.org/diplomaticconferences
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	www.un.org/law/icc/
Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization	http://legal.un.org/committees/charter
Ad Hoc Committee on Criminal Accountability of United Nations Officials and Experts on Mission	http://legal.un.org/committees/criminal_accountability
Ad Hoc Committee on the Administration of Justice at the United Nations	http://legal.un.org/committees/admin_of_justice

Website	*Uniform resource locator*
Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996	http://legal.un.org/committees/terrorism
Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and their Property	http://legal.un.org/committees/immunities
Ad Hoc Committee on an International Convention against the Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings	http://legal.un.org/committees/cloning
Ad Hoc Committee on the Scope of Legal Protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel	http://legal.un.org/committees/safety_convention